1994

Winter

NCNA *Journal*

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NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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JOURNAL

WINTER 1994

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NCNA JOURNAL

Volume 19 number 1 Winter 1994

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome 1994

Happy New Year to all the members of the North Carolina Numismatic Association. The 1993 convention is history. However, I would like to go over a few things. First: I was glad to see that we had candidates for all our different awards this year.

It is my pleasure to congratulate the following individuals.

Bason Literary Award John Griffee

H. Fred Simpson Numismatist of the Year
Dale Berube

Jimmy Jackson Junior Numismatist of the Year
Jason Zeibel

Membership Drive Award Greensboro Coin Club

Once again our exhibits chairman, Autence Bason, did an outstanding job. Thanks to all the participants and congratulations to the winners:

First Place	New Jersey State Coins	John Griffee
Second Place	Secret Treasure Coins	John Griffee
Third Place	British Royal Portraits	Halbert Carmichael
People's Choice	The New Frontier	Christopher Braniff

I'm sure that those attending the auction will agree that we had a better variety this year and and the attendance was good. Our thanks to Robert Hoadley, Forrest Michael, and John Wills who cochaired the auction and to all the individuals who donated material.

As usual Dot and Ted Hendrick did an outstanding job. Our special thanks to them and to everyone involved in making the convention a success.

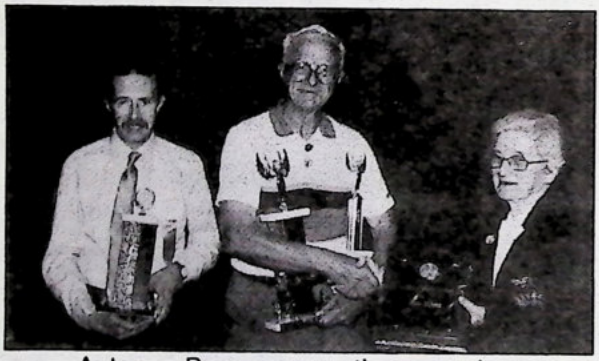
As I stated before, if anyone has any ideas on how we can improve our organization, please feel free to discuss them with me.

Charles Kimber
President

1993 NCNA CONVENTION

The North Carolina Numismatic Association held its 34th Annual Convention at the Market Place in High Point November 5 through November 7.

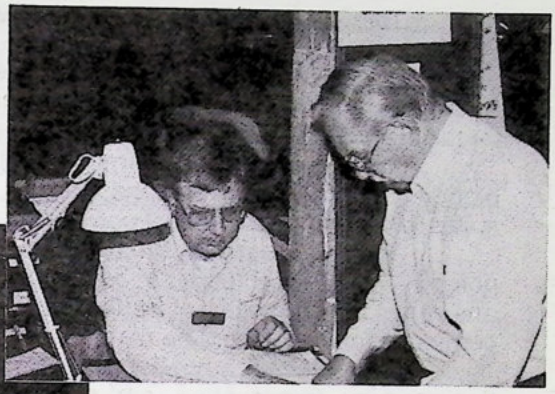
Mark Smith at Steve Martin's Table



Autence Bason presenting awards to
Christopher Braniff and John Griffee.

Joan Southworth, Lula Berube and Tessie Michaels
manning the Registration Table

John Griffee of Kure Beach won Best-in-Show for his display of New Jersey State Coinage. Christopher Braniff of Blacksburg, S. C. won the People's Choice award for his "Space the Final Frontier."
Dale Berube was named NCNA's Numismatist of the Year for his dedicated service to the Winston-Salem Coin Club.
John Griffee won the Bason Literary Award for "America's Copper Coinage, Part I" which appeared in the Summer issue of the NCNA Journal.



Clark White and Will Jordan confer at the Coin Trader's Club Table.

Forrest Michael and John Wills conduct the 1994 auction of materials donated to NCNA.

Newly elected NCNA officers for 1994 are:

Charles Kimber, Fayetteville	President
Paul Greene, Greensboro	1st Vice President
Halbert Carmichael, Raleigh	2nd Vice Pres
R. E. Southworth, Greensboro	Sec-Treas.
Don Sharpe, Charlotte	Director
Ray McGuire, Greensboro	Director
John Wills, Fayetteville	Director
Clark White, Greensboro	Director(2 yrs)

President Kimber made the following committee appointments for 1994: Forrest Michael and John Wills to the Numismatist of the Year Committee, Don Sharpe and Ray McGuire to the Bason Literary Award Committee, Will Jordan and H. Fred Simpson to the Jimmy Jackson Award, Paul Greene to Membership, and Autence Bason and Clark White to the Speakers Bureau.

AMERICA'S COPPER COINAGE

Part II

John Griffee

This is an example of what is know in Colonial numismatica as Confederatio copper. Historians believe that the original dies were produced in Birmingham, England, at the mint of George Wyon III, And brought to America by Walter Mould who later would be known for the New Jersey coppers made at his Morristown, N. J. mint.

In the early 1780's, America's 13 colonies, having won a bloody revolution from England, were a loose confederation of 13 states with a weak and almost powerless central government.

What is America? What did she stand for? Where was she going? Who is the leader? All of the answers to the above are answered on the series of pattern or experimental pieces with the common Constellatio on the reverse.

The piece above is known as the Immune Columbia, designed by James Atlee, and struck at Machins Mills Hardware Factory(Mint), Newburgh, N. Y. It depicts the figure of Columbia (America) seated on a box of merchandise and holding the scales of justice in her left hand and a liberty cap on a pole in her right. It says she is the mistress of her own house and immune from the problems of the world.

On another piece Columbia (America) is represented as the enemy of tyrants -- her right foot trampling a crown. British? Most likely! The legend states that America is inimica (unfriendly) toward tyranny.

There are mulings of the reverse with a bust of Washington, the New Jersey reverse shield design, the N. Y. Excelsiors and others resulting in 13 dies struck in 14 combinations according to "A Guide Book of U. S. Coins" by R. S. Yeoman.

Unlike the coins already discussed and those yet to come, these coins are "CENTS" and that denomination is stated on the coin. It is the only Colonial coinage with a denomination as part of the design.

During the years of the Confederation several states contracted for coppers, but Massachusetts was the only state that passed legislation, late in 1786, to establish their own mint. In May 1787, a Boston goldsmith named Joshua Wetherle was hired, a mint was set up in Boston and the first "CENTS" entered circulation by fall 1787, and production continued through 1788.

Joseph Callender was the engraver of the dies for both the cent and half-cent pieces. Later die varieties were made by Jacob

Perkins, whose works can be identified by their peculiar form of the letter "S" which looks like the numeral "8."

The design, weights and legends were all spelled out by the legislature, and all the wording is in English-- Massachusetts is telling the world that this is an American coin. Also quality control was the watchword--bad planchets were rejected and coins with clips rarely left the mint.

Colonial enthusiasts agree that because of the watchful eye of the mint director and superior stamping, Massachusetts center are the best quality of the state and private issues.

The downside, at least for the state of Massachusetts, is that because of all the care for quality coins, the mint lost money. The state was glad to shut down and abandon the operation when the new Federal regulations outlawed state coinage after January 1, 1788.

There were several things that make the Massachusetts half-cent unique. It was the first and only Colonial "HALF-CENT", and it was struck fully six years before the first half-cents were struck at the U. S. Mint in 1793.

This was, of course, a new and unofficial denomination.The HALF-CENT also has the distinction, along with its big brother, the CENT, of being the only coinage struck at a state-owned mint, which was the only mint with some semblance of quality control.

Early American Copper Club member Mike Packard has prepared a guide for attributing Massachusetts coins by Ryder die variety numbers. For the half-cents there are just nine different 1787's and two 1788's.

Would you believe that there are 350 different die varieties of Connecticut coppers? Henry C. Miller methodically catalogued and assigned numbers to all of them. The numbers are still the standard today.

The state awarded a contract to Samuel Bishop, Joseph Hopkins, James Hillhouse and John Goodrich to establish a mint near New Haven known as The Company for Coining Coppers. It manufactured coppers from October 1785 to June 1787.

Unofficial Connecticut coinage was also struck by James Atlee and the forgers at Machins Mills in Newburgh, N. Y. Some believe that N. J. coiner, Walter Mould, also made Connecticut coppers at his Morristown, N. J. facility.

The mint owners took no chances with their designs. They wanted their coins to look the same as the British designs that were still in circulation. The design shows a head on the obverse (copy of George II or George III) and a seated female (copy of Britannia?) on the reverse, with the date below. The female is called Liberty as she is symbolic of the state's new freedom.

Continued next page

At least the legends were changed. AUCTORI CONNEC on the obverse means by the authority of the State of Connecticut and INDE ET LIB on the reverse refers to Independence and Liberty which expressed the hope of the new state and the new nation.

James Jarvis eventually took over the operation of the mint and the contracts to coin coppers, and it ended in embezzlement and flight to avoid prosecution, but that's another interesting story. The Bowers & Merena Norweb II auction of March 1988, contained 260 pieces, 231 of the die varieties. Is this a record?

Should New York be considered as one of the state copper coin issues? The answer is no and yes? Several individuals petitioned the New York state legislature in 1787 for the right to coin copper. No coins were ever authorized.

Two mints, assuming that eventually the state would come around, started coining coppers with a New York design in hopes of the eventual contract. The contract never came, but the state got the coppers anyway.

The first company, location not known but probably in or near New York City, was owned by the partners Ephriam Brasher (of Brasher Gold Doubloon fame) and John Bailey (maker of the New Jersey copper running fox variety). They produced the coin shown, which is a pretty close match of the Connecticut bust-Liberty coins except the legends have been changed to read EBORAC NOVA or New York and VIRT ET LIB for Virtue and Liberty which was obtained as a result of the War of Independence. They also produced the well-known New York EXCELSIOR coins.

The other coiner producing New York coins was the busy Thomas Machins Hardware Factory better known as Machins Mills for its continuing production of unofficial, on in plain words, forgeries, of New York, New Jersey, Vermont, Connecticut and other Colonial coins.

Cover Photo courtesy of Bowers & Merena's Lexington Collection Sale, January 1994

Bibliography and suggested Reading:

Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins, Walter Breen. 1988, pp 65-78, 87-89, 94 and 119-120
America's Copper Coinage 1783-1857, handbook of the American Numismatic Society, by Richard G. Doty, 1984, pp 2-7
The Norweb Collection, An American Legacy, by Michael Hodder and Q. David Bowers. 1987
The History of United States Coinage as Illustrated by the Garrett Collection, by Q. David Bowers. 1979, pp 103-165

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JAN

15-16 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Holshouser Bldg, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

22-23 Northern Va Coin Club, Community Center, Vienna VA, Earl Blaisdell, 703-241-0130

FEB

18-20 Charlotte Coin Club, Merchandise Mart, Charlottee NC, Will Jordan, 704-364-2850

25-27 Peach State Coin Show, Galleria Expo Center at the Waverly, Atlanta GA, Larry Jackson, Box 76482, Atlanta GA 30358

26-27 Charlotte Stamp Show, Days Inn, Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, Box 240155, Charlotte NC 25224

MAR

3-5 American Numismatic Association, New Oreleans LA

5-6 Cumberland County Coin Club, Bordeaux Inn, Fayetteville NC, Charles Kimber, 3705 Florida Dr., Fayetteville NC 28309

2-13 Shenandoah Valley Coin Club, Outlet Village, Waynesboro VA, Clarence Armstrong, 610 "C" St., Staunton VA 24401

8-20 Tennessee State Numismatic Soc., Days Inn, East Ridge, TN, Ruth Armstrong, Box 80052, Chattanooga TN 37414

25-27 Model City Coin Club, Civic Auditorium, Kingsport TN, E. S. Stanley, 3737 Hemolock Pk. Dr., Kingsport TN37664

25-27 Suburban Washington, Baltimore MD, Gordon Berg, Box 1876, Rockville MD 20850

26-27 Raleigh Coin Club, Holshouser Bldg, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Halbert Carmichael, Box 5625, Raleigh NC 27650

APR

8-10 DC Metro Show, Holiday Inn Express, Springfield VA, Rob Lehmann, Box 6283, Springfiled VA 22150

15-17 Lower Cape Fear Coin Club, Elks Lodge, Oleander Dr, Wilmington NC, O. T. Thompson, Box 4243, Wilmington NC 28406

15-17 Provost Guard Coin Club, Kerbela Shrine Temple, Knoxville TN, Dennis E. Pressley, 3922 Copper Ridge Rd., Knoxville TN 37931

23-24 Northern Va Coin Club, Community Center, Vienna VA, Earl Blaisdell, 703-241-0130

MAY

21-22 Charlotte Stamp Show, Days Inn, Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, Box 240155, Charlotte NC 25224

20-22 Georgia Numismatic Association, Galleria Center, Atlanta GA, Jack Hancock, Box 1014, Gainesville GA, (404) 532-8783

28-29 Metro Washington Numismatic Assn, Sheraton Plaza, New Carrolton MD, Paul Singleton, Box 894, Annandale VA 22003

JUN

3-5 Parker Coin Club, Holiday Inn, Roper Mtn Rd., Greenville SC, Don McAlister, 2207 W. Parker Rd., Greenville SC 29611

10-12 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

17-19 Maryland State Numismatic Assn, Convention Center, Baltimore MD, Paul Singleton, Box 894, Annandale VA 22003

17-19 Memphis Paper Money Show, Cook Convention Center, Memphis TN, Mike Crabb, Box 17871, Memphis TN 38187

24-26 Maryland State Numismatic Assn, Convention Center, Baltimore, ,

JUL

27-31 American Numismatic Assn, Detroit MC,

30-31 Charlotte Stamp Expo, Days Inn, Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, Box 240155, Charlotte NC 25224

AUG

19-21 Blue Ridge Numismatic Association, NorthWest Georgia Tarde Center, Dalton GA, Halbert Carmicahel, Box 5625, Raleigh NC 27650

19-21 Provost Guard Coin Club, Kerbela Shrine Temple, Knoxville TN, Dennis E.Pressley, 3922 Copper Ridge Rd., Knoxville TN 37931

26-28 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Scott Bldg, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

SEP

16-18 Carolina Coin & Stamp conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, 919-828-9450

23-25 Tennessee State Numismatis Soc, Day's Inn, East Ridge, Chattanooga TN, Terry Hess, Box 831, Clemmons NC 27012

24-25 Charlotte Stamp Expo, Days Inn, Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, Box 240155, Charlotte NC 25224

OCT

7-9 Middle Atlantic Numismatic Assn, Holiday Inn, Columbia MD, Jack Pryor, Box 505, cockeysville MD 21030

20-23 Peach State Coin Show, Galleria Expo Center, Atlanta GA, Larry Jackson,

28-30 South Carolina Numismatic Assn, Hyatt Regency, Greenville Sc, Don McAlister, 2207 W. Parker Rd., Greenville SC 29611

NOV

18-20 Suburban Washington, Convention Center, Baltimore MD, Gordon Berg, Box 1876, Rockville MD 20850

DEC

10-11 Charlotte Stamp Expo, Days Inn, Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, Box 240155, Charlotte NC 25224

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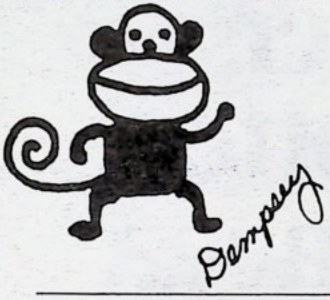

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